Application No. 10/658,348
Amendment dated May 31, 2006
Reply to Notice of Non-compliant Amendment of May 24, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title of the drawings section on page 7 with the following amended title: BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURE FIGURES

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 36 with the following amended paragraph:

Table 4 Table 3 lists the T_g and T_m for some of the polymers used in the embodiments of the present invention. T_g and T_m of polymers are attainable by one of ordinary skill in the art. The cited exemplary temperature and time for exposure is provided by way of illustration and it is not meant to be limiting.

Please replace the title of Table 4 on page 36 with the following amended title.

Table 4 Table 3

Please replace the first paragraph on page 45 with the following amended paragraph:

Multi-Link™ stents were cleaned by placement in an ultrasonic bath of isopropyl alcohol solution for 10 minutes. The stents were dried and plasma cleaned in a plasma chamber. An EVOH solution was made with 1 gram of EVOH and 7 grams of DMSO, making an EVOH:DMSO ratio of 1:7. Vinblastine was add to the 1:7 EVOH:DMSO solution. Vinblastine constituted 2.5% by weight of the total weight of the solution. The solution was vortexed and placed in a tube. The cleaned Multi-LinkTM. stents were attached to mandrel wires and dipped into the solution. The coated stents were passed over a hot plate, for about 3-5 seconds, with a temperature setting of about 60°C. The coated stents were cured for 6 hours in an air box then placed in a vacuum oven at 60°C for 24 hours. The above process was repeated twice, having a total of three layers. The average weight of the coating was 0.00005 gram, with an estimated vinblastine concentration of 12 microgram per stent. Some of the stents were sterilized by electron beam radiation. The sterilized and unsterilized vinblastine coated stents were tested for a 24 hour elution period by placing one sterilized and one unsterilized stent in 5 ml of phosphated saline solution (pH 7.4) at room temperature with rotational motion. The amount of vinblastine eluted was evaluated by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) analysis. The results of this test are given below in Tables 4A and 4B and plotted in FIG. 3. The data indicates that electron beam radiation procedure does not interfere in the release of vinblastine from EVOH.

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On page 46, please insert the following before "Release Profile For Vinblastine – Unsterilized":

Table 4A

On page 46, please insert the following before "Release Profile For Vinblastine – Sterilized": Table 4B

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 56 and 57 with the following amended paragraph:

The control group of animals received delivery of water instead of the drug. The test group of animals received actinomycin D in two different concentration of 10⁻⁵M and 10⁻⁴M and 10⁻⁴M. The results of the study are tabulated in Table 3 Table 5. The percent stenosis in the treated groups (32.3+/-11.7) was significantly decreased as compared to the control groups (48.8+/-9.8). FIGS. 5A and 5B illustrate sample pictures of the histology slides of the coronary vessels from the control and the Dose 1 group, respectively.